GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
LANDLINE AND CELLULAR CONNECTIONS
Ponnuswamy Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) The total number of landline and Cellular connections both in rural and urban areas at the end of 2003 and 2004;

(b) Whether any target has been fixed to increase the tele density; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Details of the land line and cellular connections are as under:-

Year	Land line+ WLL(In lakhs)		Cellular(PSUs+ Pvt.)(Inlakhs)		Land line + Cellular(In lakhs)		Total (In lakhs)
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	
March, 03	305.23	114.07	126.87	0	432.10	114.0	546.17
March, 04	381.13	122.72	261.55	0	642.68	122.7	765.40

(b) Yes, Sir. As per the NTP-1999, a tele-density target of 7% was fixed to be achieved by 2005 and 15% by 2010.

(c) BSNL has planned to provide 1 crore telephone connections in the year 2004-2005. This includes 7.5 lakhs landlines, 22.5 lakhs WLL connections and 70 lakhs Cellular Mobile connections & MTNL has fixed target of 5 lakhs telephones. In addition, the Private Operators are also providing telephones at an increasing pace. As a result, the tele-density increased from 5.11% in March, 2003 to

702% in March, 2004, and thus the target fixed for 2005 has been achieved much in advance.